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CALGARY

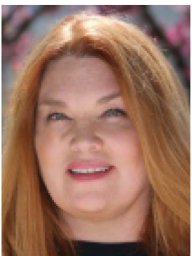
Weekly Newscasts Lesson Plan | June 27, 2016

Objectives:

- To develop listening skills
- To increase vocabulary
- To increase knowledge of current events
- to provide an authentic learning resource for both learners and instructors

Contents:

- Three news stories
 - Vocabulary building activities
 - Listening comprehension activities
 - Transcripts
 - Answer keys
-



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*Voice of Learning
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NEWSCAST 1

THE CITY OF CALGARY'S NEW WORKERS ARE GOATS



Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/1.3645190>

Video Source (0:46): <http://www.cbc.ca/player/play/710006339929/>

LANGUAGE LEVEL: Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB) **4/5** or equivalent

WARM UP QUESTIONS

What do you know about goats? Explain. What do you think goats are doing for the City of Calgary?

LISTENING ACTIVITY 1

Click play to watch the video (0:46) or copy and paste the link into your Internet browser. Watch the video for overall comprehension. Do not make any notes at this time.

VOCABULARY ACTIVITY 1

Watch the video again. This time, write down the words you do not understand below. You may wish to pause the video in order to do this.

If you are in a class, compare your list with a colleague. If not, compare your list to the list on the next page.

VOCABULARY ACTIVITY 2:

Review the meanings of the words used in the video.

WORDS	DEFINITIONS
trail-blazers	people who make new pathways for others to follow
chomp	munch or chew
weed-free	an area free of weeds
weeds	wild plants that are unwanted (e.g. dandelions and thistles)
environment-friendly	something that is not considered harmful to the environment
alternative	something different; another possibility or choice
pesticide	a harmful product used to kill insects or plants
droppings	feces from animals e.g. bird droppings
fertilize	make soil or land more fertile or productive
soil	the dirt that plants grow in; top layer of the earth
hooves	an animal's feet (e.g. a horse or a goat)
aerate	introduce air into something (e.g. holes in your lawn)
herd	a group of animals that live together
guardian dogs	dogs that are used for protection
protect	keep safe

LISTENING ACTIVITY 2: Watch the video again after reviewing the vocabulary used. Afterwards, discuss the benefits of goats.

LISTENING ACTIVITY 3 (Audio clip 0:08)

Listen to the newscast. While you listen, follow along with the script below. Underline the words you do not understand.

Dandelions and weeds are no match for these lawn mowers.

More than 100 goats arrived at Confluence Park in West Nose Creek last week to start their new job for the City of Calgary.

For the next two weeks, they'll be chomping down on weeds as part of a pilot to test goats as a way to manage weeds in Calgary's parks.

Chris Manderson, urban conservation lead for Calgary Parks says, "It helps us manage weeds in tricky areas, such as along waterways or on steep slopes, where traditional methods are not appropriate."

While the park will remain open, the city is reminding the public to keep a "respectful distance" from the herd and their handlers.

Dogs should also be kept on leashes where the goats are present.

Goats have been used to manage weeds in other cities before.

NEWSCAST 2

RBC AND SHOPPERS DRUG MART LATEST TO BREAK UP CREDIT CARD MARRIAGE



Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/1.3644371>

LANGUAGE LEVEL: Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB) **4/5** or equivalent

WARM UP QUESTIONS

Do you have a credit card? Why or why not? If you have a credit card, do you use it to collect points? What type of points can you collect with credit cards? Look at the title. What do you think the story is about?

VOCABULARY ACTIVITY 1

Match the words below with the correct definition.

#	Word / Expression	Definition/ Synonym
	largest	1. ending; breaking up; separating
	drugstore chain	2. change from one thing to another; change over
	parting ways	3. get; receive; make
	earn	4. having the same feeling; reciprocal; shared
	exchange	5. biggest
	products	6. things you can buy
	switch over	7. a series of stores owned by the same company
	customers	8. to say that something was caused by something
	mutual	9. trade; swap
	chalk something up to	10. shoppers

(See answer key)

LISTENING ACTIVITY 1 (Audio clip 1:07)

Listen to the newscast once for overall comprehension.

LISTENING ACTIVITY 2 (Audio clip 1:07)

Listen to the newscast. While you listen fill in the blank with the word that you hear.

Canada's largest drugstore chain and _____ bank are parting ways.

Royal Bank and Shoppers Drug Mart are _____ both their co-branded debit card and Shoppers Optimum MasterCard.

The card allows Shoppers customers to _____ extra Optimum points they can then exchange for free in-store products.

Neither card is available any _____. Their combined 200,000 existing customers will be switched over to other RBC banking products by the _____.

Both Shoppers and RBC say the _____ is mutual. Shoppers Drug Mart chalks it up to "business reasons."

(See answer key)

CONCLUSION

Discuss or consider the reason for the breakup. Can you think of other credit card partnerships that ended?

NEWSCAST 3

POLICE ARREST WOMAN FOR ASSAULTING A MUSLIM WOMAN



Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/1.3647211>

LANGUAGE LEVEL: Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB) **4/5** or equivalent

WARM UP QUESTIONS

Describe the woman in the picture.

LISTENING ACTIVITY 1 (Audio clip 1:51)

Listen to the audio clip. While you listen, take notes so you can explain what happened. You may need to listen more than once.

If you are in a class, compare the details you understood with a colleague. Explain to each other what happened. If you are working independently, compare your notes to the script on the following page.

READING ACTIVITY 1

Read the following script and answer the questions below.

Police have arrested a 38-year-old woman in connection with an attack on a Muslim woman in a supermarket in London, Ontario.

The Muslim woman was shopping with her four-month-old son when she was attacked, according to police.

The stranger spat on the Muslim woman, punched her several times and then pulled at her hijab and hair, police said.

Police are looking into whether surveillance footage is available.

The suspect was located after tips were called in to Crime Stoppers and London police headquarters.

Police have not released the name of the woman arrested.

QUESTIONS

1. What have police done?
2. What was the 38-year old woman arrested for?
3. What was the Muslim woman doing when she was attacked?
4. What did the stranger do?
5. What are police looking into?
6. How did police find the suspect?
7. Have police released the name of the woman?

(See answer key)

CONCLUSION

What do you think of this story? Consider or discuss.

ANSWER KEY FOR NEWSCAST 1

N/A (Non-applicable)

ANSWER KEY FOR NEWSCAST 2

RBC AND SHOPPERS DRUG MART LATEST TO BREAK UP CREDIT CARD MARRIAGE

VOCABULARY ACTIVITY 1

#	Word / Expression	Definition/ Synonym
5	largest	1. ending; breaking up; separating
7	drugstore chain	2. change from one thing to another; change over
1	parting ways	3. get; receive; make
3	earn	4. having the same feeling; reciprocal; shared
9	exchange	5. biggest
6	products	6. things you can buy
2	switch over	7. a series of stores owned by the same company
10	customers	8. to say that something was caused by something
4	mutual	9. trade; swap
8	chalk something up to	10. shoppers; clients

LISTENING ACTIVITY 2 (Audio clip 1:07)

Canada's largest drugstore chain and **biggest** bank are parting ways.

Royal Bank and Shoppers Drug Mart are **ending** both their co-branded debit card and Shoppers Optimum MasterCard.

The card allows Shoppers customers to **earn** extra Optimum points they can then exchange for free in-store products.

Neither card is available any **longer**. Their combined 200,000 existing customers will be switched over to other RBC banking products by the **fall**.

Both Shoppers and RBC say the **breakup** is mutual. Shoppers Drug Mart chalks it up to "business reasons."

ANSWER KEY FOR NEWSCAST 3

POLICE ARREST WOMAN THAT ASSAULTED A MUSLIM WOMAN

READING ACTIVITY 1

QUESTIONS

1. What have police done?
Police have arrested a 38-year-old woman in connection with an attack on a Muslim woman.
2. What was the 38-year old woman arrested for?
She attacked a Muslim woman in a supermarket.
3. What was the Muslim woman doing when she was attacked?
She was shopping with her with her four-month-old son when she was attacked.
4. What did the stranger do?
The stranger spat on the Muslim woman, punched her several times and then pulled at her hijab and hair.
5. What are police looking into?
Police are looking into whether surveillance footage is available.
6. How did police find the suspect?
The suspect was located after tips were called in to Crime Stoppers and London police headquarters.
7. Have police released the name of the woman?
No they haven't.

TRANSCRIPTS OF WEEKLY NEWSCASTS

	WEEKLY NEWS STORIES	TIME
INTRODUCTION	Hi. This is Carolyn Dunn. You're listening to Learning English with CBC for the week of June 27th.	0:00
NEWSCAST 1 CITY OF CALGARY'S NEW WORKERS ARE GOATS Source: http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/goat-herd-weed-control-calgary-park-1.3645190 CLB: 4/5	<p>Dandelions and weeds are no match for these lawn mowers.</p> <p>More than 100 goats arrived at Confluence Park in West Nose Creek last week to start their new job for the City of Calgary.</p> <p>For the next two weeks, they'll be chomping down on weeds as part of a pilot to test goats as a way to manage weeds in Calgary's parks.</p> <p>Chris Manderson, urban conservation lead for Calgary Parks says, "It helps us manage weeds in tricky areas, such as along waterways or on steep slopes, where traditional methods are not appropriate."</p> <p>While the park will remain open, the city is reminding the public to keep a "respectful distance" from the herd and their handlers.</p> <p>Dogs should also be kept on leashes where the goats are present.</p> <p>Goats have been used to manage weeds in other cities before.</p>	0:08
NEWSCAST 2 RBC AND SHOPPERS DRUG MART END CREDIT CARD MARRIAGE Source: http://www.cbc.ca/1.3644371 CLB: 4/5	<p>Canada's largest drugstore chain and biggest bank are parting ways.</p> <p>Royal Bank and Shoppers Drug Mart are ending both their co-branded debit card and Shoppers Optimum MasterCard.</p> <p>The card allows Shoppers customers to earn extra Optimum points they can then exchange for free in-store products.</p> <p>Neither card is available any longer. Their combined 200,000 existing customers will be switched over to other RBC banking products by the fall.</p> <p>Both Shoppers and RBC say the breakup is mutual. Shoppers Drug Mart chalks it up to "business reasons."</p>	1:07

<p>NEWSCAST 3</p> <p>POLICE ARREST WOMAN FOR ASSAULTING A MUSLIM WOMAN</p> <p>Source: http://www.cbc.ca/1.3647211</p> <p>CLB: 4/5</p>	<p>Police have arrested a 38-year-old woman in connection with an attack on a Muslim woman in a supermarket in London, Ontario.</p> <p>The Muslim woman was shopping with her four-month-old son when she was attacked, according to police.</p> <p>The stranger spat on the Muslim woman, punched her several times and then pulled at her hijab and hair, police said.</p> <p>Police are looking into whether surveillance footage is available.</p> <p>The suspect was located after tips were called in to Crime Stoppers and London police headquarters.</p> <p>Police have not released the name of the woman arrested.</p>	<p>1:51</p>
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